GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Social Welfare Department – Scheduled Castes Component (earlier SC Sub Plan) - Marriage Incentives - CHANDRANNA PELLI KAANUKA (SCs)- New scheme for providing One-time Assistance of Rupees Forty Thousand only (Rs 40,000/-) to the Brides belonging to poor SC families at the time of Marriage – Orders - Issued.

Social Welfare (SCP.A2) Department

G.O.Ms.No.44 Dated:18.04.2018

Read the following:

1. The "Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan (Planning, Allocation and Utilisation of Financial Resources) Act (No 1 of 2013)
2. Minutes of the 19th meeting of the Nodal Agency for Scheduled Castes Component (SCSP) and Scheduled Tribes Component (TSP) held on 30.01.2018
3. 5th Meeting of the State Council for Development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes held on 22.03.18.

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ORDER:

The "Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan (Planning, Allocation and Utilisation of Financial Resources) Act (No 1 of 2013), seeks to secure the accelerated development of Scheduled Castes (SCs) & Scheduled Tribes (STs), with emphasis on achieving equality, economic and human development, duly ensuring the security, social dignity & empowerment of the SCs & STs. The Act envisages that the schemes included in the SCSP/TSP should secure direct & quantifiable benefits to the SC & ST households/habitations & bridge the gaps in development indicators.

2. The Vision 2029 framework of the Government of Andhra Pradesh also places emphasis on inclusive development, based on the twin pivots of Kutumba Vikasam and Samaja Vikasam, aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals, aiming at holistic and inclusive development of all sections of the society & accordingly the Government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing various schemes & programmes for the welfare of the marginalised sections of the society.

3. In the above context, the Government acknowledges the need to alleviate the difficulties faced by economically poor Scheduled Caste families in the course of fulfilling certain important social responsibilities, in particular, the performance of marriage of girls.

4. The marriage of girls at an early age limits academic attainment & learning and thereby their productivity & future earnings thus leading to lost **a)** wages, **b)** productivity, **c)** growth, besides having a negative impact on their and their children's health. Further, the cost incurred towards the marriages also leads to borrowings from non-formal lending agencies and financial distress among the Scheduled Castes families.

5. The Government recognises the need for an intervention that addresses the aforementioned issues through provision of financial aid, which would help the economically poor SC families fulfil the responsibility of performing the marriage of girls, without slipping into indebtedness/debt traps.

6. The avoidance of debts for the purpose of marriage of the girl child, will ensure that the Scheduled Castes families continue making investments towards essential human development aspects such as health, education, nutrition, livelihoods, etc. and ensure that these critical areas are not compromised in any significant manner.

(PTO)

7. The proposed intervention, is thus, in alignment with the Vision 2029 approach of Kutumba Vikasam & Samaja Vikasam & seeks to achieve following outcomes:

a) Secure the poor Scheduled Castes families from the risk of indebtedness & financial distress, arising due to performance of the marriage of girls.

b) Provide enhanced opportunities to the girls, belonging to the Scheduled Caste families, to pursue higher levels of learning.

c) Reduce the incidence of marriages of girls, belonging to the Scheduled Caste families, below the legal age of marriage.

d) Reduce maternal mortality among the girls, belonging to the Scheduled Caste families, as marriage at lower ages disproportionately increases the chances of maternal mortality.

e) Reduce infant mortality & stunting in children born to girls, belonging to the Scheduled Caste families, as marriage at lower ages has been identified as a key contributor towards infant mortality and stunting in children.

8. **Nomenclature of the Scheme**

The nomenclature of the scheme shall be "Chandranna Pelli Kanuka(SCs)"

9. **Amount of Financial Assistance**

The scheme shall provide a financial assistance of Rs. 40,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand Only) for marriage of girls belonging to the SC community, subject to the fulfilment of the prescribed eligibility conditions.

10. **One-Time-Incentive & Disbursal**

The incentive under the scheme shall be one-time financial incentive and shall not be clubbed with any other marriage related incentive scheme of the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

The financial assistance under the scheme shall be credited to the Bank Account of the Bride only.

11. **Eligibility Conditions:**

The eligibility conditions for availing the scheme are as mentioned hereunder:

a) Bride shall be an unmarried woman and belong to the SC community. The widows belonging to the SC community are also eligible under the scheme.

b) Bridegroom shall never have been married.

c) Bride shall have completed (18) years of age and the bridegroom shall have completed (21) years of age, as on the date of marriage.

d) Bride and bridegroom shall be residents of Andhra Pradesh.

e) Bride shall belong to family having annual income Below the Poverty Line.

f) Marriage shall be performed in Andhra Pradesh

g) Bride & bridegroom shall have passed Class X. However, this condition shall be relaxed for marriages conducted up to and no later than June 30th, 2020.

12. **Procedure for application**

The procedure for application, evidentiary documents, field verification and approval, including the details of software application, etc. shall be notified separately.

(Contd..P.3)

13. **Approval of Nodal Agency and State Council**

The Nodal Agency for Scheduled Castes Component (SCSP) and Scheduled Tribes Component (TSP), in its 19th meeting (held on 30.01.2018) has approved the Chandranna Pelli Kaanuka Scheme(SCs). Further, the State Council for Development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has also approved in-principle, the Chandranna Pelli Kaanuka(SCs) Scheme, in its 5th meeting held on 22.03.2018.

14. **Effective Date.**

The date on which the scheme shall become operational shall be notified separately.

15. **Awareness & Capacity Building**

An amount not exceeding (2) % of the scheme cost shall be earmarked for awareness and capacity building for the scheme.

16. **Head of Account**

The expenditure for the scheme shall be debited to the following Head of Account:

2225 Welfare of SCs, STs, Other Backward Classes and Minorities
01 Welfare of Scheduled Castes
102 Economic Development
11 State Development Schemes
16 Chandranna Pelli Kaanuka
310 Grant-in-Aid
312 Other Grants-in-Aid

17. The Director of Social Welfare, AP, Amaravathi and all the District Collectors in the State shall take all the necessary steps for providing wide publicity for the scheme and for it's successful implementation.

18. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance (FMU-Welfare-1) Department, vide their UO No.39027/29/2018-SO(FMU-WF-1) , dt:13-04-2018.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

S. S. RAWAT
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Director of Social Welfare, AP, Tadepalli, Guntur District.
All the District Collectors in the State of AP
The Director of Treasuries and Accounts, A.P., Vijayawada
The Pay & Accounts Officer, A.PVijayawada,
The Accountant General, A.P., Hyderabad.
Copy to:
The Finance (FMU-Welfare-1) Department
The Finance (BG.I) Department
The General Administration (Cabinet) Dept.
The PS to Secretary to CM
The PS to Minister (SW & E and TW & E)
The PS to Prl. Secretary (SW)
SF/SC

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER